

Sheena Easton is touring Australia in late November and December. For dates and bookings, visit abstractentertainment.net/sheena-easton.

Sheena Easton

'I'm an old lady now!'

On the eve of her Aussie tour, the '80s pop star tells why she's happier than ever in her fabulous 50s

Don't ask Sheena Easton about her rumoured romance with Prince, those four failed marriages or that estimated \$65 million fortune.

'I think I've earned the right not to talk about my personal life anymore,' says the '80s pop diva, who shot to fame with hits such as *Morning Train* and the Bond film title track *For Your Eyes Only*.

'My marriages have been well documented but I just let people believe what they want to believe. I'm not married now but I figure I just don't want to talk about it. My life is my life, not my job.'

In the past, the Scottish-born singer joked about being unlucky in love – 'I still suck at choosing partners,' she tells *New Idea* – with none of her marriages lasting more than 18 months.

But 56-year-old Sheena, who's about to tour Australia for the first time in 10 years, is less forthcoming today.

Asked about her fortune, she speedily deflects:

'I honestly couldn't tell you how much I'm worth!'

Well, what about the 20 million albums she's reputed to have sold? 'Oh, I don't know the exact number,' she says. 'That sounds like a lot, doesn't it? It's always exaggerated. I guess it could be, over the years. But you know the artist doesn't get all the money, right?'

These days, the two-time Grammy winner lives quietly between homes in Las Vegas and Los Angeles, where she raised her adopted children Jake, now 21, and daughter Skylar, 19.

'They're not looking to do what I do, thank God,' she says, confiding that she misses the kid – although being an empty-nester means she can please herself when it comes to career choices.

'Once you hit 40, you start to get comfortable – after that, you pretty much don't look back,' says Sheena, whose suggestive collaboration with Prince – *Sugar Walls* – was once included on a 'Filthy Fifteen' list of songs unsuitable for teens.

'The nice thing about being in my 50s is that people tend not to focus on my looks anymore. "She's not so gorgeous?" No s***, Sherlock! This butt only sits high if I'm wearing Spanx!'

'I have wrinkles but I do have good days. My daughter sometimes tells me: "Gee, Mum, you clean up good!" So I can still bring it when I have to.

'My arse will never be as good as when I was young and perky, but what the hell. I will give up a good arse for contentment, confidence, strength, wisdom and all the other stuff you get from living your life.

'I don't feel the pressure to be what people expect of me,' she adds. 'I'm just me. Take me or leave me, this is it!'

By Jenny Brown

Sheena (right, clockwise) with Roger 'James Bond' Moore in 1981, accepting a Grammy for Best Newcomer in 1982 and singing with Prince in 1987.

